

Parachute Safety Program

The Army is the Department of Defense (DoD) lead agency for policy and procedures for military parachuting. This includes tracking and maintaining parachute-related malfunctions, incidents and mishaps as they occur. Most Navy and Marine Corps units are well aware of the requirements for reporting mishaps, malfunctions and incidents to the Aerial Delivery and Field Services Department (ADFSD) at Fort Lee, Va.

What may not be common knowledge is the requirement to submit ground mishap reports. This is generally the responsibility of the unit's safety officer. All reports must be made to the Naval Safety Center using the WESS mishap-reporting module.

Download and use the parachuting malfunction, incident and mishap reporting worksheet located on the Naval Safety Center's website at <http://safetycenter.navy.mil/wess/tutorial/worksheets>. The completed worksheet should be given to the unit's safety officer who will create the WESS report. Also, email the completed work sheet to the parachute safety analyst at the Naval Safety Center for tracking purposes.

You can get contact information by calling (757) 444-3520, Ext. 7121/59/60 (DSN 564). All



Navy photo by PH2 Crystal Brooks

additional DoD required reporting will then be completed by the Naval Safety Center. This process eliminates the need for the unit to submit two separate reports, improves trend analysis for the Navy and Marine Corps, and provides accurate reporting to the lead agency responsible for maintaining data. ♦